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## ARTICLE VIII.

*On the Patella Amæna of Say. By Isaac Lea. Read March 6, 1840.*

IN a very able paper, published in the Boston Journal of Natural Science, Mr. Couthouy gives an elaborate description of the animal of the *Patella Amæna* of Say, and places it in a new genus established by Quoy and Gaimard, under the name of *Patelloida*. From the description of the animal by the French zoologists, and the minute one of Mr. Couthouy, there can be no doubt of the propriety of this change, though the form of the shell gives little or no indication of the great distinction developed by the anatomy of the animal.

I agree fully with the American zoologist in the propriety of changing the generic name of this *Patella*, but I do not see the propriety of retaining the specific name *Amæna*, because it was first described by Müller as *Patella testudinalis*. Entertaining this opinion, I have consulted the authors who have described this shell, and now offer the following synonymy:—

*Patelloida testudinalis. Lea.*

*Patelloidea amæna. Couthouy. Bost. Jour. Nat. Hist. vol. ii. p. 171.*

*Patella amæna. Say. Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. vol. ii. p. 223.*

*Patella testudinalis. Müller Zool. Dan. p. 237. Deshayes' Lam. vol. vii. p. 543. Fabricius Faun. Groen. p. 385. Gmelin, p. 3718. Dillwyn, p. 1045. Wood's Cata. No. 63.*

*Patella testudinaria. Müller Zool. Dan. Kæmmerer, Rudolst Conch. p. 12, pl. 2, figs. 4 and 5.*

*Patella tessellata. Müller Zool. Dan. vol. iii. 2868. Dr. Beck's Letter.*

*Patella testudinaria Gröenlandica. Chemnitz, vol. x. p. 325, pl. 168, figs. 1614, and 1615.*

*Patella Clealandii. Sowerby. Extracts from the Minute Book of the Linn. Soc. vol. viii. p. 621. Fleming's British Animals, p. 287.*

*Patella virginea.* Müller Zool. Dan. vol. iii. p. 2867.

*Patella virginea?* Gmelin, p. 3711. Dillwyn, p. 1052. Fleming's Br. Ani. p. 287.

*Patella clypeus.* Mr. S. Ker's Letter.

*Lottia*\* *Antillarum?* Sow. Conch. Manual, fig. 231.

This species of *Patelloida* seems to have escaped the attention of Lamarek, which surprises me the more as its geographical distribution is very extensive. Linneus and Schröter give the habitat of *Patella testudinaria* as in the Norwegian seas; but it is evident that these writers have confounded the two species, the *testudinaria* being a southern species, while the *testudinalis* is a northern one. Müller says it inhabits Norway. Fabricius mentions it as being common on the shores of Greenland. I have a suite of specimens from Greenland, which came from the extensive cabinet of Prince Christian of Denmark. Some very fine specimens were also sent to me from Hudson's Bay, by Governor Simpson of the Hudson's Bay Company; and Mr. S. Ker, many years since presented it to me under the name of *Patella clypeus*, from Greenock, in Scotland. It is also found in abundance on the rocks at Nahant, in Massachusetts, and in Maine, and other parts of our northern coast.

Chemnitz and Kæmmerer have both made excellent representations of this shell; the former the most perfect. Dillwyn and other authors quote the *Patella radiata* Born, for this species; but a reference to his figure (pl. 18, fig. 10) will satisfy any one who knows the shell that this is an error. Nor is Dillwyn correct in giving the *P. virgata* of Gmelin as a synonym. Deshayes refers to Schröter's *P. testudinaria*; but I think that Schröter had the India shell in view when describing that species, which is very different and much larger.

\* Mr. Sowerby, in his Conch. Manual, p. 59, gives precedence to Mr. Gray's generic name of *Lottia* over that of *Patelloida* of Quoy and Gaimard. Deshayes says (vol. vii. p. 549) that he retains the name of *Patelloida* as being the first given.